



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY HEALTH
LANSING

JANET OLSZEWSKI
DIRECTOR

CHILDHOOD LEAD POISONING PREVENTION AND CONTROL COMMISSION

COMMISSION MEETING

July 14, 2008

1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

109 West Michigan Avenue Lansing, MI 48933
Second Floor, Room 205

Meeting Minutes

COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

Alethia Carr
Clay Powell
Carole Ann Beaman Ph.D, LLP
Kanta Bhambhani
Rosallynn Bliss
Daniel Brant
Brindley Byrd
Joan Dyer
Michael Fehler
Kim Kovalchick
Mary Morrow
William Parker
Irvin Poke
Philip Schrantz
Laurel R. Sproul

COMMISSIONERS ABSENT

Randy Ray Barst

STAFF

Donna Strugar-Fritsch – Health Management

Jane Nickert – MDCH, CLPPP
Wesley Priem – MDCH, HHS
Leslie Jaquette – MDCH, HHS

PUBLIC

Debby Behringer – MDCH, CLPPP
Rod McNeill – Genesee County Health
Department
Mandy Powers – Ingham County Health
Department
Molly Polverento – Michigan Environmental
Council
Debora Hense – Stonebridge Technical Services
Rachel Copeland – COPAL/PHPMM/FC
Terrie Young – Baker/Donora Focus Center
Michele Della Monetta – Blue Care Network
Paul Haan – Healthy Homes, Grand Rapids
Paul Shaheen – MCMCH
Christina Brandon – Health Plan of Michigan
Robert Scott – MDCH, CLPPP

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 1:05 p.m. by Chairperson Alethia Carr.

II. COMMISSION OPERATION AND GOVERNANCE

Chairperson Carr addressed the role of the commission.

- Review of new enabling legislation

House Bill 4936, page 3, Sec. 5479 states the tasks of the commission, strategic recommendations for lead prevention and control, and requirements for a written report of the commission's findings and recommendations to the governor and legislature by March 31 of each year. A brief report was issued in 2008 and the next one is due March 31, 2009. No comments were made by the commissioners relating to the legislation.

- Mission and duties of the commissioners are listed on the "Charges of the Commission", page 2. The Commissioners adopted both charges.
- Changes to the bylaws were outlined and the commission adopted the changes. At each Commission meeting, minutes will be recorded and a final copy will be posted on the website.
- Clay Powell was unanimously elected as Vice-Chair.

III. REVIEW: MICHIGAN ADDRESSING LEAD POISONING 2003 – 2008

Donna Strugar-Fritsch briefed the commission about Michigan's actions relating to addressing childhood lead poisoning concerns over the past five years. A January 2003 article from the Detroit Free Press was passed around the group.

IV. UPDATES SINCE JUNE 2007

Plans to eliminate childhood lead poisoning in Michigan were reviewed. The following categories were discussed:

- Outreach/Education
 1. Wesley Priem provided a contact list for the current Michigan Lead Advocacy Groups.
 2. Michigan's first Lead conference was held in Lansing on April 22, 2008.
 3. This year's media campaign focused on "Do-it-Yourselfers" and large retailers were to be engaged. Wesley Priem stated they chose not to participate.
 4. There are 50 thousand records in the Lead Registry, but only 5,000 are viewable to the public. Currently, only rental properties are displayed publicly on the Registry.
- Federal Initiatives

The RRP Rule was discussed. Mr. Priem stated Cindy Wheeler of EPA will be in Michigan on August 19, 2008 and he will publish a notice providing more information.
- Housing

The eligibility criteria for children in *Early On* are under review and one recommendation is that criteria be clarified to include eligibility of children with blood lead levels at or above 10 micrograms per deciliter.
- Funding
 1. Philip Schrantz stated that the DEQ Bond Initiative will not be on the ballot, and another opportunity for this will not be seen until 2010.

V. SUMMARY: MOMENTUM, GAPS, AND OPPORTUNITIES

Commissioner Carr summarized key areas regarding childhood lead poisoning in Michigan over the past five years as identified by the previous Lead Commission. An edit was noted in the first box under the heading “July-03” – it should read “Call to Action”.

VI. COMMISSION PRIORITIES

The Priority-Setting Tool was reviewed and four work groups were established.

Testing High-Risk Children: An edit was noted for the first box under the heading “**Testing High-Risk Children**” should read “high-risk zip codes as condition”. Jane Nickert mentioned that we moved to look at 14 targeted communities instead of labeling them high-risk zip codes. The zip code applies to the children’s residence, and not the daycare location. Commissioner Brant suggested testing children in Special Education. DHS would need to change licensing rules. Financial barriers would be related to the family not having insurance or money to cover the testing. Commissioner Bliss suggested integrating testing into the benefits package of insurance companies and going to the heart of the problem. Ms. Nickert mentioned that MCIR would still pick up high risk zip codes (target area communities).

Low-Interest Loans, Alternatives to PIP Loans: Discussion on this area included comments about the limited number of loans being requested, and that often grants are preferred over loans. Funds are needed for marketing these options.

Develop New, Sustainable Funds: Discussion about the complex challenges involved with this initiative. If mortgage sales had a minimal fee added the funds raised would go to lead abatement and testing. The Wayne county efforts lead by Mary Morrow’s efforts could use funding.

Amend Housing Registry Legislation: There has been no action on the proposed change to the legislative language for the Lead Registry. Follow up will be done by state staff. If the action is unsuccessful, the Commission will draft a letter.

Penalties to Property Owners: A letter will be drafted from the commission asking MALPH to request a meeting with the local county health departments Health Officers concerning how to apply the Landlord Penalty Law (Act 434) locally. Mary Morrow has a PowerPoint Presentation and a manual relating to the law that can be used to share this information.

Inter-Governmental Synergies: Surveys will be sent to the respective state departments for completion and the results will be discussed during the next Commission meeting.

Public Awareness: Commissioner Carr stated to keep and consider additional ideas.

Remediation of Residences: This will also be mentioned during the next meeting.

Vice-Chair Powell suggested educating at the high school level, so when these students go to rent in the future, they will ask if the residence is lead-free.

The four work groups will be established and convene to accomplish work noted before the next Commission meeting. All work groups will have state staff support:

1. Testing High-Risk Children for Lead Poisoning
 - a. Joan Dyer, Kim Kovalchick, Carole Ann Beaman, Randy Barst, Laurel Sproul, and Rosalynn Bliss; Jane Nickert, state staff.
2. Loans and Credits for Lead Hazard Abatement
 - a. William Parker and Clay Powell; Wesley Priem, state staff.

3. New Revenue

- a. Rosalynn Bliss and Clay Powell; Donna Strugar-Fritch/A. Carr, state staff.

4. Legal Protections and Liabilities Regarding Lead Hazards

- a. Philip Schrantz, Clay Powell, Brindley Byrd, and Mary Morrow; Donna Strugar-Fritsch, state staff.

VII. ACTIONS AND NEXT STEPS: MEETING SCHEDULE

The next meeting will be in early November, most likely on a Monday. It will be a full commission meeting. Workgroups should meet in the meantime. Another meeting will be scheduled in late January or early February 2009. The meeting schedule will go out to all.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT

Rod McNeill: Suggested we could also use NACCHO via Robert Pestronk, current President, as a tool for the MALPH letter.

Molly Polverento: She works with the Michigan Environmental Council and they can help us with advocacy work. The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends a maximum of 40 ppm of lead for products, while others are setting too high of limits - between 120 and 600 ppm of lead. Michigan has a high limit for lead in toys and we should look at other state's recommendations.

Debora Hense: Suggested we make reasonable recommendations as we are the only ones who advocate for kids. To help protect children and eliminate childhood lead poisoning, she also suggested:

1. Child care licensing rules should be changed to include all child care centers located in facilities built before 1978, not just newly licensed ones.
2. Funding grants should be made available to daycares to help offset the costs.
3. Lead hazard rechecking should be consistent with the state EPA risk assessment guidelines and be required for license renewals.
4. The rules should be extended to include kindergarten classrooms in public and private schools built before 1978.

IX. MEETING SUMMARY AND ADJOURNMENT

Four work groups were established. A letter will be drafted from the commission to MALPH regarding the penalty to rental property owners. The next agenda will cover the Inter-Governmental Synergies survey and children's products. Cathy will send the Commission Contact List to all commission members. Chairperson Carr adjourned the meeting at 3:50 p.m.

Minutes prepared by:

July 25, 2008

Leslie Jaquette

Leslie Jaquette